



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,855	06/25/2003	David Allen Janson	201-1270	1465

7590 06/15/2004

Ford Global Technologies, LLC  
One Parklane Blvd.  
600 Parklane Towers East  
Dearborn, MI 48126

EXAMINER
----------

ABDELNOUR, DENNIS J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3681

DATE MAILED: 06/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/603,855

Applicant(s)

JANSON ET AL.

Examiner

Dennis J. Abdelnour

Art Unit

3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 June 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/25/2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

The following is a first action on the merits of application serial 10/603,855 filed on June 25, 2003. Claims 1-30 are pending.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 8, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 8 recites the limitation "an input" in line 3. It appears this member is distinct from "the input" recited in claim 1 and again in lines 2-3 of claim 8. The applicant should provide a distinct recitation of this member at each point it is recited, so as to distinguish it from "the input" recited in claim 1. The examiner suggests calling this member --the first layshaft input shaft--, or something similar.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this

Art Unit: 3681

subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hirt (US 2003/0051577 A1).

Hirt discloses a multiple speed power transmission for motor vehicles in Figure 1, comprising:

an input (10);

a first layshaft (50) driveably connectable through a first power path to the input (10), and supporting a first pinion (90) thereon;

a clutch (14) for alternately connecting and disconnecting the input (10) and first layshaft (50);

a first coupler (100) for releasably coupling the first pinion (90) and first layshaft (50);

a second layshaft (46) driveably connected through a second power path and a one-way drive connection (12) to the input (10), supporting a second pinion (82) thereon;

a second coupler (96) for selectively releasably coupling the second pinion (82) and second layshaft (46); and

an output shaft (18) supporting a gear (70) thereon, said gear (70) being in meshing engagement with the first pinion (90) and second pinion (82).

The first and second couplers (100 and 96) are synchronizers.

The one-way drive connection (12) is a hydraulically actuated friction clutch having an engaged state wherein the second layshaft and input are driveably connected and a disengaged state wherein the second layshaft and input are driveably disconnected.

Clutch (14) is a friction clutch.

In addition, the first layshaft (50) is driveably connected to the input (10) through the first power path comprising an input (42), a third pinion supported on the input (gear member of transmission stage 48), and a third gear supported on the first layshaft (the other gear member of transmission stage 48) in meshing engagement with said third pinion; and the second layshaft is driveably connected to the input through the second power path comprising a fourth pinion (gear member of transmission stage 44) supported on the input (40), and a fourth gear (the other gear member of transmission stage 44) supported on the second layshaft (46) in meshing engagement with said fourth pinion.

The first power path produces a first ratio (64 – second speed) of the rotational speeds of the first layshaft (50) and input, and the second power path produces a second ratio (44 – first speed) of the rotational speeds of the second layshaft (46) and input that is less than the first ratio.

Input (10) is connected to a power source (engine 20) as shown in Figure 1, and output shaft (18) is adapted to be connected to drive wheels of a motor vehicle (through a differential mechanism).

In addition to the gearset comprising transmission ratio (62), primary gearsets (60, 64, and 66) are supported and spaced along the first layshaft (50). Transmission ratio (60) includes a reverse idler gear and a reverse pinion (88) and a reverse output gear (68).

### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following three references disclose spur gear transmissions having dual

Art Unit: 3681

countershafts parallel to an input and an output shaft including a first and second power transmission path through the first and second countershafts: US 2003/0154810 A1 to Hedmen, USPN 6,427,549 to Bowen, and USPN 6,095,001 to Ruehle et al.

### ***Facsimile Transmission***

6. Submission of your response by facsimile transmission is encouraged. Group 3600's facsimile number is **(703) 872-9326**. Recognizing the fact that reducing cycle time in the processing and examination of patent applications will effectively increase a patent's term, it is to your benefit to submit responses by facsimile transmission whenever permissible. Such submission will place the response directly in our examining group's hands and will eliminate Post Office processing and delivery time as well as the PTO's mailroom processing and delivery time. For a complete list of correspondence **not** permitted by facsimile transmission, see MPEP 502.01. In general, most responses and/or amendments not requiring a fee, as well as those requiring a fee but charging such fee to a deposit account, can be submitted by facsimile transmission. Responses requiring a fee which applicant is paying by check **should not be** submitting by facsimile transmission separately from the check.

Responses submitted by facsimile transmission should include a Certificate of Transmission (MPEP 512). The following is an example of the format the certification might take:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to  
the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703) 305-3597) on \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)


If your response is submitted by facsimile transmission, you are hereby reminded that the original should be retained as evidence of authenticity (37 CFR 1.4 and MPEP 502.02). Please do not separately mail the original or another copy unless required by the Patent and Trademark Office. Submission of the original response or a follow-up copy of the response after your response has been transmitted by facsimile will only cause further unnecessary delays in the processing of your application; duplicate responses where fees are charged to a deposit account may result in those fees being charged twice.


Art Unit: 3681

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis J. Abdelnour whose telephone number is (703) 305-5309. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:30, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on (703) 308-0830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

dja  
  
June 6, 2004

  
**CHARLES A. MARMOH**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 3681**